

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY USSR (Turkmen SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT City of Kushka

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Kushka (N35-16, E62-17) lies about one kilometer south of the Kushka river, and has a population of approximately 25,000 persons, including the military forces stationed there. The town was an old fortress and is still primarily a military city. [redacted] the town possessed only two members of the militia; the military police supplied the rest of the law enforcement personnel.

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Legend to the map of Kushka

1. A fuel dump, from which the military forces are supplied. Gasoline and oil are stored here in three tanks, of unknown capacity, located above ground; there is also an undetermined number of underground tanks. The fuel dump covers an area approximately 300 by 300 meters.
2. An electric power house, in existence since the days of the Tsars. The plant has two diesel engines of two cylinders each, which produce a 220-volt direct current. There are also two diesel engines of German manufacture, one of which has eight cylinders and produces 30 kilowatts. The second engine has four cylinders and produces 15 kilowatts. Both engines produce 110-volt alternating current.
- 2a. An electric power house, which produces 220-volt direct current. Equipment consists of one diesel engine approximately five meters in diameter; it has two cylinders and is twice as large as the engines in the electric power house at No.2.
3. Vostokintorg warehouse where trading goods, consigned to Afghanistan and arriving from Afghanistan, are stored.
4. Additional warehouses, both above and below ground. The warehouses are constructed of brick with galvanized roofs.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X", Field Distribution By "#")

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. Railroad club, constructed of large stones with a galvanized roof.
6. Roundhouse, with a capacity of ten locomotives.
7. Water tower, for locomotives. The tower has a cupola top, and is 10 to 12 meters high and about five meters in diameter.
- 7a. Fuel tanks, for the trains.
8. Railroad station, about 100 meters long and 15 meters wide.
9. Loading area; a cobblestoned square, approximately 400 meters long and 80 to 100 meters wide.
10. Garages in which medium tanks, automobiles, and trucks are housed. The garages are separated from each other by the old fortress wall. These garages, which are about 150 meters long and wide enough to house a tank, were formerly the site of stables when cavalry units were stationed in Kushka.
- 10a. Garages.
11. Military barracks, two stories high, constructed of large stones, with a galvanized roof, and approximately 100 meters long and 50 meters wide.
- 11a. Barracks for the troops of the infantry division, designation unknown, which is stationed in Kushka. The barracks are located on a bluff (11b), which overlooks the town to the north. The map does not show all the barracks, which are one-story buildings of various shapes and sizes.
- 11b. A bluff, approximately 150 meters high.
12. Infantry division bathhouse, constructed of brick, with a galvanized roof.
13. The Smersh of the infantry division based in Kushka.¹ In 1947 the division was commanded by Gen. PETROV (fnu). The building, approximately 50 meters long and 50 meters wide, is white stucco, with a galvanized roof.
14. The No. 17 railroad school (sic), a two-story building, constructed of brick, with a galvanized roof. Beneath the building, which is approximately 100 meters long and 50 meters wide, are two air raid shelters with entrances on the northwest and northeast sections of the building.
15. The railroad boarding school, which houses the children of railroad workers while the No. 17 school is in session. It is white stucco over brick, approximately 100 meters long, 50 meters wide on the east side, and 30 meters wide on the west side.
16. The bazaar, which consists of numerous tables, with overhead canopies, on which the merchants display their wares. The area covered by the bazaar varies according to the season. In the summer and during pleasant weather the bazaar may be about 200 by 200 meters. In cold weather the bazaar encompasses an area of approximately 100 by 100 meters.
17. A meteorological station. The building is white stucco over brick, and is 30 meters long and 30 meters wide.
18. The town bakery, constructed of brick, with a galvanized roof, and 50 meters long and 30 meters wide; the bakery ovens burn oil as fuel.
19. Komendatura of the infantry division; it contains a guardhouse, and furnishes military police for the town. The building is of brick construction, with a galvanized roof, and is 100 meters long and 50 meters wide.
20. Garages for housing tanks, trucks, and automobiles; they are similar to the garages at No. 10, but are not as long.

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21. Border Guard garage, 30 meters long and 30 meters wide, with an automobile and gasoline supplies.
22. Infantry division officers' quarters. The buildings, approximately 200 to 250 long and 20 meters wide, are built of brick with galvanized roofs.
- 22a. Officers' quarters of the 68th Border Guard Detachment. The building is about 80 meters long and 20 meters wide; it is constructed of brick with a galvanized roof.
- 22b. Division officers' quarters; the buildings date back to Tsarist times and, according to source, are very attractive. They are one-story, stucco buildings, and the galvanized roofs are gabled.
23. A store, which was formerly a Russian Orthodox church; the cupola of the former church is still intact.
- 23a. The railroad store, 30 meters long and 20 meters wide; it is constructed of brick, with a galvanized roof.
24. Site of the post office, telegraph office, and telephone center of the town. The building, constructed of brick with a galvanized roof, is approximately 100 to 150 meters long and 20 meters wide.
25. The village soviet.² The building, of brick construction, is about 50 meters long and 20 meters wide, and has a galvanized roof.
26. A bank, similar in size and construction to the village soviet; four bank militiamen serve as guards.
27. Infantry division headquarters. It is a yellow brick construction with a galvanized roof, and is 80 meters long and 50 meters wide. A corridor runs the length of the building with offices along both sides.
28. Quarters of the general in command of the infantry division, approximately 50 meters long and 50 meters wide. The foundation of the building consists of huge stones which protrude above ground to a height of about 1½ meters. The building is white stucco over brick with a galvanized roof. The grounds, surrounded by a brick wall about six feet high, include a garden, a pool, and a two-car garage.
29. Mess hall of the Border Guard headquarters. The building, white stucco over brick with a galvanized roof, is approximately 20 meters long and 10 meters wide. The seating capacity of the mess is about thirty men.
30. Officers' club. The north and south wings are one story high, while the center section is two stories high. The west end of the center section is built of glass. The roof is made of concrete laid over steel rods and wires; the center section of the roof serves as a dance pavilion. On the second floor of the center section there is a dance hall, while the first floor is a huge foyer. A restaurant is located in the south wing. Source was told that the club was a church at one time. From north to south the club is about 150 meters long. The center section is about 100 meters long and 50 meters wide. The wing containing the restaurant is about 70 to 80 meters long and 30 meters wide. The north wing is about 50 meters long and 30 meters wide.
31. Gasoline storage facilities for the garages at No. 20.
32. Hospital, which consists of approximately seven buildings; the buildings are about 50 meters long and 30 meters wide.
33. Infantry division warehouse, where foodstuffs for the use of the division are stored. The building is approximately 50 meters long and 50 meters wide.

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34. Border Guard Headquarters. The area is surrounded by a brick wall about six feet high; the enclosed area is approximately 200 meters by 100 meters. The buildings are one-story, brick constructions with red-painted iron roofs.
- 34a. Border Guard Staff Headquarters.
- 34b. Barracks
- 34c. Residence of Border Guard Commanding Officer.
35. Mountain artillery regiment, attached to the infantry division. The unit, designation unknown, is equipped with short-barreled artillery pieces.
36. Water pumping station. Equipment consists of a one-cylinder diesel engine, about the same size as the engine of the electric power house located at No. 2a. Water is pumped from two underground basins, of unknown capacity, located next to the pumping station.
37. A monument erected to commemorate the 350th anniversary (sic) of the reign of the house of Romanov. The monument, which is on the high bluff overlooking the town, is about 10 meters high; its base is round and is about 10 meters in diameter. The monument is constructed of concrete reinforced with steel rods and wire mesh. Steps lead up from the base of the monument to a door which enters into a tiny chamber within the monument; at one time this chamber is said to have led to one of the caves under the town. At one time the monument was faced with a gold sword about two meters long with a crescent below the sword; however, the gold facing has been removed and only signs of the clamps, which held the sword and crescent in place, remain.

1. Comment: [redacted] probably using the term Smersh colloquially to refer to military counterintelligence, inasmuch as Smersh proper no longer existed in 1949.

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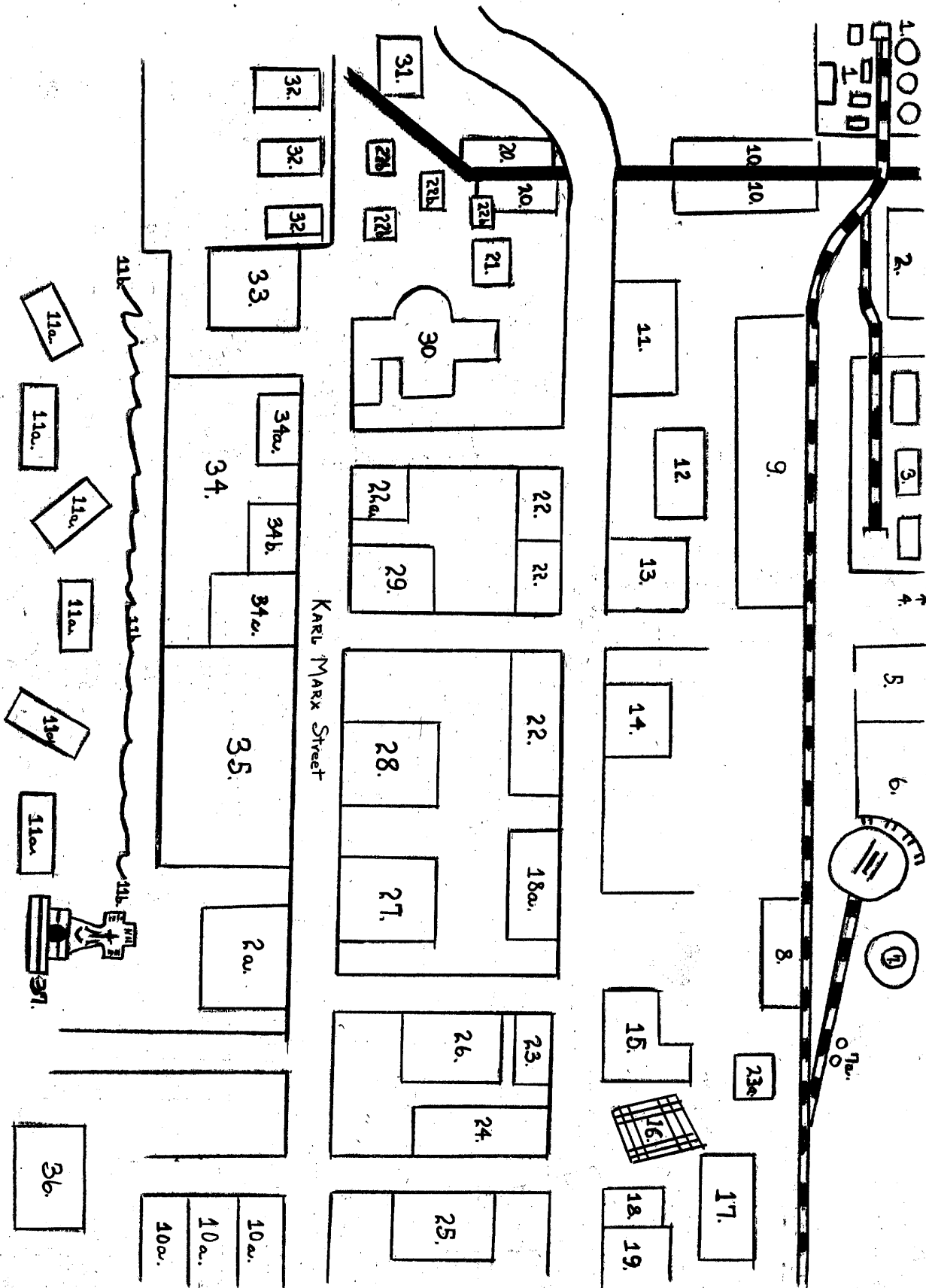
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Map of Kushka



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